

Dated: July 9, 1999.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering, and Technology Development, Notice of Meeting

In accordance with Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-473, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering, and Technology Development (5270).

Date/Time: July 19 (3:00-5:00 pm) July 20-Public Hearing (8:00 am-5:00 pm) and July 21, 1999 (8:30-11:30 am).

Place: National Science Foundation, Room 1235, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA, 22230.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Kay Rison, Executive Secretary, CAWMSET, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA, 22230. Phone (703) 306-1004.

Minutes: May be obtained from the Executive Secretary at the above address.

Purpose of Meeting: CAWSET was established by Congress on October 14, 1998 to research and recommend ways to improved the recruitment, retention, and representation of women, minorities, and persons with disabilities in science, engineering and technology education and employment. The Public Hearing will serve to inform the Commission of best practices for recruiting, developing, utilizing, promoting, and retaining women, members of racial and ethnic minority groups traditionally underrepresented in the SET enterprise, and persons with disabilities.

Agenda

Monday, July 19

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Preparation for Public Hearing

Tuesday, July 20—Public Hearing

8:00 a.m.

Welcome—Rita R. Colwell, Director, National Science Foundation

8:00 a.m.

Keynote speaker: Martha A. Krebs, Director, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy "Women in Science and Technology: The President's Interagency Council on Women"

9:00 a.m.

Panel 1: SET Recruitment and Hiring Initiatives

10:00 a.m.

Panel 2: SET Education and Career Development

11:00 a.m.

Public Comment

12:35 p.m.

Keynote speaker: Kenneth J. Disken, Vice President, Human Resources, Electronics Sector, Lockheed Martin Corporation

1:50 p.m.

Panel 3: Utilization of SET Students and Professionals

2:50 p.m.

Panel 4: Advancement of Individuals in Science, Engineering, and Technology

4:00 p.m.

Topic 5: Retention Initiatives in SET Education and Employment

5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Wednesday, July 21

8:30-11:30 a.m.

Follow up for Public Hearing

Dated: July 9, 1999.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-18014 Filed 7-14-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. STN 50-528, STN 50-529 and STN 50-530]

Arizona Public Service Company, (Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3); Exemption

I

Arizona Public Service Company (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74, which authorize operation of Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (Palo Verde), Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

These facilities consist of three pressurized water reactors located at the licensee's site in Maricopa County, Arizona.

II

Section 50.71 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), "Maintenance of records, making of reports," paragraph (e)(4) states, in part, that "Subsequent revisions [to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR)] must be filed annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided the interval between successive updates [to the FSAR] does not exceed 24 months." The three Palo Verde units share a common UFSAR; therefore, this rule requires the licensee to update the same document annually or within 6 months after a refueling outage for each unit.

III

Section 50.12(a) of 10 CFR, "Specific exemptions," states that

The Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of the regulations of this part, which are:

(1) Authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security.

(2) The Commission will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present.

Section 50.12(a)(2)(ii) of 10 CFR states that special circumstances are present when "Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule...." The underlying purpose of the rule was to relieve licensees of the burden of filing annual FSAR revisions while assuring that such revisions are made at least every 24 months. The Commission reduced the burden, in part, by permitting a licensee to submit its FSAR revisions 6 months after refueling outages for its facility; but the rule did not provide for multiple unit facilities sharing a common FSAR. Rather, the Commission stated that "With respect to...multiple facilities sharing a common FSAR, licensees will have maximum flexibility for scheduling updates on a case by case basis" (57 FR 39355 (1992)).

By letter dated June 9, 1998, as supplemented December 21, 1998, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) to allow revisions to the UFSAR, changes to the quality assurance program made in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(a)(3), and reports of changes, tests, and experiments made in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59(b)(2) to be submitted to the Commission on a 24-month periodicity.

As noted in the staff's safety evaluation, the licensee's proposed schedule for UFSAR updates will ensure that the Palo Verde UFSAR and quality assurance program will be maintained current within 24 months of the last revision and the interval for submission of the 10 CFR 50.59 design change report will not exceed 24 months. The proposed schedule fits within the 24-month duration specified by 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). Revising the UFSAR annually or 6 months after refueling outages for each unit, therefore, is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that special circumstances